

Need for dedicated Task Force for Cyber Crime Department

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY (TIRUPATI): Madam, I rise to draw the attention of this esteemed House to the growing menace of online betting and gambling Apps which are ruining countless lives across the country.

The easy accessibility of these platforms has caused several financial distress, mental health issues, and even suicides, particularly among the youth. Students and salaried employees are losing their hard-earned money, leading to heavy debts and family disputes.

These platforms create an illusion of quick money, often pushing people into fraud, theft and illegal activities to recover their losses.

Madam, tragically, there have been many instances of individuals taking extreme steps after losing everything to these platforms. Operating in grey area, these Apps are often backed by illegal networks and criminal syndicates. The software betting applications are built completely in black box, and we see many influencers and celebrities also promoting these Apps, which needs to be regulated.

I urge the Government to immediately bring regulations to plug these loopholes and take immediate action on the betting Apps, and ensure they do not relaunch under new names. A dedicated task force should be established under the Cybercrime Department to eliminate such platforms, and nationwide campaigns should educate people about the danger of online betting. Thank you, Madam.